



# The Voter

League of Women Voters of Anne Arundel County

Niecy Chambers & Susan Elson, Co-Presidents

Joyce Martin, Editor

January 2016

Issue 90

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Letter from the Co-Presidents

Dear Members,

It's that time of year again. The days from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day are called "The Holidays" and while we enjoy the bustle, many of us treasure the occasional minutes of peace and quiet we can find to reflect on the passing year and plan ahead.

Sadly, our League lost two venerable leaders in 2015, former president Anne Nelson in May, and long-time board member Ruth Latimer in December. Their contributions live on in everything we do, and their wisdom, humor and presence will be greatly missed.

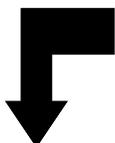
Reflecting back on the year just ended, LWVAAC achieved a great deal through the commitment and hard work of our members. In addition to hosting a very successful State Convention, League members registered voters at five high schools, the Paca House naturalization ceremony, and the 3rd annual Hispanic Festival. Two new committees formed to (1) look at the critical issue of community relations, and (2) develop a teaching tool on the importance of voting. Program speakers this year included Congressman Sarbanes, County Executive Steve Schuh, County School Superintendent George Arlotto, as well as local historian Janice Hayes-Williams and LWVAAC members Dawn O'Brien and Carolyn Ciepiela.

Looking ahead to January, LWVAAC will co-sponsor a presentation on human trafficking in Maryland, host a voter registrar training, meet with our state delegation and hold a consensus meeting on money in politics. February and March will feature an informational meeting on redistricting reform and discussion of voting rights, respectively, and April brings us to our annual meeting and the 2016 primary election!

While programs are important, people make the difference. We extend a warm welcome to those who have joined our League for the first time this year, and we encourage all members to share their ideas, concerns and direction to the board. Participation can take many forms, and we hope to help you find the level and style that maximizes our League's value to you. Please take a moment to look through this newsletter to find a variety of opportunities for study, training and hands-on work.

Finally, we are delighted to announce that Joyce Martin has accepted the position of newsletter editor, effective this issue, and has joined the board of directors. Thank you, Joyce, and welcome!

Niecy Chambers and Susan Elson, Co-Presidents



LWVAAC has a new web address!

Our new website is currently under construction. Contact Niecy if you'd like to help.

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LOCAL LEAGUE HAPPENINGS

Money in Politics: Study, Discussion, Consensus

Study, discussion and consensus are fundamental elements of the League process. At the 2014 national LWV convention, members adopted a three-part study: (1) Amending the Constitution, (2) Redistricting, and (3) Money in Politics (MIP). During the 2014-15 program year, LWVAAC looked at the history of MIP in America, and heard Congressman Sarbanes' proposed remedy. Now, the LWVUS MIP committee has assembled a wealth of materials to provide a deeper understanding of the issue, and to guide our consensus discussion. All LWVAAC members are encouraged to participate in our MIP consensus meeting on January 27, 2016 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Annapolis Regional Library.

The intended focus of the 2014 MIP study was to review and update the LWVUS position on campaign finance. However, when the study committee began its work it concluded that a gap exists in the LWV campaign finance position with regard to the First Amendment.

The League's campaign finance position, which was adopted in 1974, focuses only on the financing of election campaigns as it relates to the democratic process, i.e. opportunities for undue influence, ensuring equity among candidates, and protecting the public's right to know and to fully participate.

In 1976, the United States Supreme Court approached the question of financing of election campaigns from the point of view of what the money actually funds and the interests of donors, candidates and independent spenders in preserving their ability to express political views through the activities being financed. To the Court, this campaign speech (as opposed to campaign finance) is central to American democracy and is what the First Amendment was designed to protect.

The League position does not answer the question of whether all or some political activity constitutes free speech protected under the First Amendment. Because it does not address the question, the position does not balance the First Amendment interests of candidates, donors, independent spenders and issue advocates against the interest in equitable competition among candidates for office, preventing undue influence, and enhancing voter participation.

In its Citizens United decision, the Court drastically extended its views on free speech to allow unlimited independent spending in candidate elections by corporations and unions and entirely discounted the danger from any undue influence other than quid pro quo ("something for something") corruption. This has radically transformed the election landscape.

The League is pursuing a strategic, multi-dimensional approach at the federal and state levels to overcome or limit the Court's decision in Citizens United. However, it believes that our advocacy is constrained because the League's current campaign finance position does not address First Amendment considerations.

To update the League position on campaign finance to include the First Amendment concerns requires member understanding and agreement on these issues. Before attending the meeting on January 27, please take time to review the resources prepared by the MIP committee. All are available on the LWVUS MIP webpage, http://forum.lwv.org/category/member-resources/our-work/money-politics-review.

Volunteers are needed to help present the material, and record the consensus discussion. If you would like to assist or have any questions, please contact me at thesiegels915@comcast.net or 410-849-8832.

Myrna Siegel, Program Chair

## Recap of Meeting with Dr. George Arlotto, Superintendent of Schools

Anne Arundel County Public Schools Superintendent George Arlotto met with League members at school headquarters on Monday, November 9. Dr. Arlotto outlined some of the pressing challenges facing our school district and described some innovative plans to improve achievement levels for all students. He reminded his audience that the goal of the school system is to **“elevate all students and eliminate all gaps.”**

Anne Arundel’s school system is the fifth largest in the state with over 80,000 students—and it is the 43<sup>rd</sup> largest in the U.S. Student numbers have increased by 6,000 since 2007-08 and 1,000 students were added this year. The number of students in the county’s many private schools is unknown.

The changing demographics of the school population present many of the challenges. There are many more requirements for ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) programs, particularly for Spanish language speakers. The need is highly concentrated in Annapolis and in the Brooklyn areas. In addition to language, many children are victims of “interrupted” education, meaning they are illiterate in their own languages.

Dr. Arlotto said 33% of the students in the system live in poverty, despite the great wealth in the county. He believes 33% is an underestimate because many poor families often do not fill out the forms by the time students go to high school: they believe there is a stigma attached to their poverty. He also noted an uptick in homeless students – he says there are about 1100 homeless children in our schools. There is a program to provide transportation to these children to keep them in the schools they have been attending although their families have moved. Low income students receive federally subsidized breakfast, lunch, snacks and in some cases dinner.

Efforts are increasing to prepare students for learning. Many children arrive at Kindergarten or Grade 1 unprepared to read or learn. Some have never opened a book. He said a telltale sign is when a child opens a book upside down. He said these are “students in the gap,” and they have often have difficulties in school. There is an ongoing effort to add more before- and after-school programs and more feeding programs to enhance school for unprepared children. AACPS also works with various after-school programs such as the Boys & Girls Clubs, but they can only assist such programs, not run them. He does not know how many children are involved.

Dr. Arlotto explained that there is an effort to improve programs starting with the high schools, moving to the middle schools and then down to the elementary level. He is enthusiastic about programs of choice such as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) now at South River and North County High Schools. STEM is “wildly successful.” Other programs of choice include BMAH (Biomedical/Allied Health) at Glen Burnie H.S. and PVA (Performing and Visual Arts) at Annapolis and Broadneck High Schools, which connect with Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts. The Phoenix program for challenged children has moved



(Photo by Kathy Larrabee)



**Meeting with Dr. Arlotto (con't)**

out of the old Germantown Elementary building and it has been converted into an art center with an auditorium, work space and art gallery where PVA children can come after school into the evening.

With the establishment of programs of choice at the high school level, the programs are now reaching down to the middle school level: there are PVA programs at Bates and Brooklyn Middle schools and STEM Middle programs at Central, Lindale and Old Mill South.

When the Legislature mandated all-day Kindergarten in 2007, without providing funding, there was no room available. In the intervening years the school district has added trailers (euphemistically called “learning cottages”), as well as additions to buildings.

Dr. Arlotto stressed that data shows “the earlier the better” is beneficial to the youngest learners. Therefore, he is striving to increase Pre-K access. He stated this is a mandate for himself and his staff. Currently there are 1800 children in Pre-K. There is no state funding for this effort and there is little space available. Last year 160 seats were added and there will be another 150-200 Pre-K seats added to the new budget.

Another aspect of delivering learning for the youngest students includes rewriting the elementary curriculum: the kindergarten and first grade curricula were rewritten last year. This year they will work on Grades 2 and 3, then on Grades 4 and 5. Asked “what is different?” he explained that with increased testing, fun has been cast out of the curriculum. Also, kids don’t move enough. Collaboration skills and movement are now being emphasized, and science and social studies are being built in a way that enhance reading and math skills. With more hands-on fun learning, children will enjoy school which will lead to better graduation rates.

Questions about disciplinary problems and the involvement of parents recurred. Dr. Arlotto said there is ongoing outreach to parents including

online grading and reporting so that parents can see what their children are doing in school. Although they are using social media, it is impossible to force parents to come into the school. One member pointed out that some parents are working two or three jobs and have no time to come in. He said the school system must concentrate on the 6 ½ hours they have the children. He believes bad behavior is not confined to school hours. He noted an increase in violent behavior, even in very young children, which is a pattern statewide. He said the schools send in emergency teams to observe and help teachers in out-of-control classrooms.

Security in the schools is another concern. Dr. Arlotto said that safety and security is an issue for him every day—so it will not become a problem. There is training monthly in each school where staff practices responses to various threatening scenarios. All schools now have locked doors where visitors must be buzzed in. However, no system will work perfectly. Every high school (and several middle schools) has an armed School Resource Officer (SROs) who are Anne Arundel County police officers. The SROs, who are specially trained, intervene only if something illegal occurs. Otherwise, they interact with students and they have become part of the team: they are seen as part of the faculty and sometimes lecture, coach and run clubs. The SROs develop relationships with the students and often learn information of potential problems. Dr. Arlotto considers the SRO presence highly beneficial.

The League is joining with others to encourage the Governor to release \$67 million in indexed (GCEI) funds which would be of great benefit to AACPS, one of the jurisdictions which would receive the funds. Last year, our system lost \$4.8 million when the funds were cut. That amount could translate to 70 additional teachers which would reduce class size.

Submitted by Carol Sures

## Cuba, Then and Now

On Tuesday, October 27, League members were treated to a fascinating account of Dawn O'Brien's and Carolyn Ciepiela's adventures in Cuba 50-plus years apart.

Carolyn and her husband visited Cuba on their honeymoon just before the U.S. ended diplomatic relations. Dawn went earlier this year as part of an organized group, only months before relations were reestablished.

Despite government-imposed restrictions, Dawn gained a wealth of knowledge, which she shared along with her personal experiences and wonderful photographs. We look forward to following in her footsteps! Our thanks to both speakers, and to BayWoods for providing a delicious lunch.

By Niccy Chambers



(Photo by Kathy Larrabee)

## Meet LWVAAC Member....Joyce Martin



(Photo by Kathy Larrabee)

Let's extend a warm welcome to new LWVAAC member Joyce Martin who is also the new editor of *The Voter*, our newsletter. "Taking responsibility for the newsletter will give me an opportunity to quickly learn about LWVAAC activities and to become acquainted with other members," she said. For approximately 20 years, Joyce provided editing services to a variety of clients. Then for another 10 years, she was the production editor of the electronic *Journal of Mathematical Systems, Engineering, and Control*.

Joyce and her husband, Clyde, a recently retired professor of mathematics and statistics at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX, relocated to Crofton, MD, in July 2014. Over the years they have lived in eight states, including Maryland three years ago when Clyde was a Jefferson Fellow at the U.S. Department of State.

Joyce grew up on a Kansas wheat farm, where her 97 year-old mother still lives. Joyce graduated from Emporia State University, with a BSE degree in English, Speech and Theatre. It was there that she and

Clyde met. Following graduation and marriage, Joyce taught high school English. They have two sons, two daughters, 11 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren. Their younger son, twin to their younger daughter, died in November 2014 from cancer.

In recent years, Joyce volunteered with the local LWV of Lubbock, TX, the Lubbock Symphony Guild, and Achievements Rewards for College Scientists (ARCS), a national scholarship granting organization. She served on ARCS Boards at the chapter and national levels. At the chapter level, Joyce served as president and, over time, held many board positions, including newsletter editor. Her hobbies are reading and knitting.

We look forward to working with Joyce. She has been appointed to serve on the board in one of the currently open positions, and she is open to hearing about newsletter ideas. She may be reached at (806) 543-0253.

By Kathy Larrabee, LWVAAC Membership Chair

## Ruth Latimer, in memoriam

Ruth Latimer, an active League member for over 40 years, and long-time LWVAAC board director, passed away on December 15. A Celebration of Life will be held on January 15, 2016 from 2:00-4:30 pm at Baywoods of Annapolis.

Sympathy may be expressed to her sister:

Elizabeth Latimer Kokiko  
169 Roscommon Place, McMurray, PA 15317  
Mrs. Kokiko's e-mail is [ekokiko@aol.com](mailto:ekokiko@aol.com)



(Baltimore Sun photo by Jed Kirschbaum)

*I call her Ruthie - a sing-song, somewhat silly pet name completely wrong for a woman with steel blue eyes, quick wit and a strong mind who, from a hospital bed says, "I can still take you".*

*I call her Ruthie - knowing that it provokes that look, the one that seems to say, 'are you off your rocker'?*

*I call her Ruthie - the dynamo on wheels who leads people, commands projects and issues directives on a daily basis.*

*I call her Ruthie - because I see in her 92 years the vigor and spirit of youth.*

*I call her my friend, Ruthie.*

By Dawn O'Brien

## Suffragette Movie Outing

On Sunday, November 15, nine LWVAAC members and friends joined a lively contingent from the local AAUW chapter for a showing of the new movie, *Suffragette*, which portrays the history of the English suffragette movement. With powerful acting and a compelling story rooted in fact, the film both educates and moves the audience, reminding us all that the right to vote is precious.

Prior to the movie, we gathered at Potbelly's for snacks and socializing. Many thanks to our friends at AAUW for inviting LWVAAC to participate in this



LWVAAC at Potbelly's: (l-r) Katherine Cahill, Carolyn Ciepiela, Susan Elson, John Strandquist, Gabrielle Strandquist, Carol Sures, Arlene Gavin, Natalie Lobe (photo by Niecy Chambers)



## **LWVAAC Board Meeting Highlights**

### **Board Meeting, Tuesday, October 27, 2015**

- **LWVMD Legislative Day:** Date has changed to Tuesday, March 1, 2016.
- **Program:** LWVAAC will not participate in the LWVUS consensus on Constitutional Amendments.
- **Voter Registration and Importance of Voting Presentation:** Nearly eighty students were registered at five high schools. Dickerson and Stevens have begun work on a Power Point program explaining the importance of voting to be taken to the high schools.
- **Registrar Training:** Membership chair Larrabee has arranged for the Board of Elections to provide voter registration training for interested League members, Thursday, January 7, 2016, 1:00-2:00 pm, Annapolis Regional Library on West Street.
- **Legislative Coffee:** We have requested January 14 for room use in the House or Senate office building. There is a fee.
- **Newsletter:** New member Joyce Martin has volunteered to become editor of The Voter newsletter. She begins by taking responsibility for the January 2016 issue.
- **Annual Meeting:** Saturday, April 30, 2016. Suggestions for a keynote speaker are requested.
- **LWVMD 2016 Legislative Priorities:** The Board will maintain priority suggestions: Corrections and Sentencing Reform and Redistricting Reform.

### **Board Meeting, Tuesday, November 24, 2015**

- **Community Relations:** Committee is gathering information on Housing and Policing through interviews and public meetings. LWVMD is studying the policing issue; the local committee will follow that study.
- **Redistricting:** LWVAAC will co-sponsor an informational program on Redistricting with the National Council of Jewish Women, open to the public on February 20 (preferred) or February 27. Elson will contact Ashley Oleson who served on the Maryland Redistricting Commission about participating.
- **Voter Registration Training & Lunch:** Prior to the training on January 7, members are invited to meet at 11:30 am for lunch at P.F. Chang's, Annapolis Towne Center.
- **Importance of Voting Presentation:** Dickerson reported progress on the "Why Vote" PowerPoint presentation to be used at schools. It will be tested after the January 7 voter registration training.
- **Sentencing Reform Action:** The Maryland Alliance for Justice Reform and other groups are working to override the Governor's veto of legislation allowing felons to vote upon their release from prison. LWVMD is considering working on the issue, based on positions the League holds. LWVAAC will follow the state League's lead.

Carol Sures, Secretary



**Bulletin Board**

**VOTER REGISTRAR TRAINING!!!**

**Thursday, January 7, 1:00-2:00 pm**  
**Annapolis Regional Library, 1410 West Street, Annapolis**

The Anne Arundel County Board of Elections will conduct a private training session for our League. Become a first-time registrar or renew your registrar credentials (required every three years). Join in the largest and longest running nonpartisan voter registration efforts in the nation; empower eligible citizens to vote.

*Come for lunch at 11:30 am, P.F. Changs, Annapolis Towne Center*

To sign up contact:  
Kathy Larrabee, 410-353-3432 (call or text), [kklarrabee@verizon.net](mailto:kklarrabee@verizon.net)

***THE VOTERS' GUIDE***

is the linchpin of the League's election year services. Unbiased, nonpartisan and free, it stands alone as a resource for citizens to learn candidates' views in their own words.

Local League volunteers are needed to assist in all aspects of *2016 Voters' Guide* production and distribution, including the Vote411 online service. Sign up at [lwvmd.org](http://lwvmd.org) to attend a Vote411 workshop or contact Niecy Chambers to learn more about this important voter service opportunity.



### March Voting Rights Discussion

The capstone of the civil rights movement was the passage of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) of 1965. However, in 2013, the Supreme Court declared a key part of the VRA unconstitutional. Are questions about race, representation and access to the ballot a thing of the past?

On Tuesday, March 15, 2016, from 10:30 to 12:30 p.m., at the Severna Park Library, LWVAAC members will discuss the issue of voting rights. To prepare for this discussion, we encourage those who attend to do some prior reading.

Recommended reading includes the following:

Give Us the Ballot: The Modern Struggle for Voting Rights in America by Ari Berman;

An August 2, 2015 *NYT* article entitled A Dream Undone by Jim Rutenberg, provides an excellent overview, and may be read in lieu of the book.

Two articles by Abigail Thernstrom of the American Enterprise Institute: Redistricting in

Today's Shifting Racial Landscape and A Vindication of the Voting Rights Act;

The Truth About Voter Fraud by Justin Levitt, published by the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law;

An Analysis of Voter Fraud in the US by Lorraine C. Minnite, Senior Fellow at Demos.

The League is rooted in the movement that secured voting rights for women. Since that time, the League has worked to ensure that all eligible voters have the opportunity and information they need to exercise their right to vote. Are voting rights in danger? Read and join in the discussion on March 15.

While doing the readings is not a pre-requisite for attending the meeting, it would be helpful. If there are questions, or difficulty in accessing the material, please contact Myrna at 410-849-8832 or [thesiegels915@comcast.net](mailto:thesiegels915@comcast.net).

Myrna Siegel and Lois Coon

### STATE AND NATIONAL LWV ACTIVITIES

#### LWVMD Provides Membership and Leadership Development (MLD) Training



Mary-Lou McCutcheon and Kathy Larrabee

The League takes seriously the subject of Membership and Leadership Development (MLD). LWVUS provides numerous resources to help local Leagues recruit, retain, and engage members. In addition, LWVMD annually offers an MLD workshop, attended this year by Kathy Larrabee and Mary-Lou McCutcheon. Cheryl Graeve, LWVUS Senior Director for Membership conducted the workshop at a snappy pace.

The primary topics of the day examined *How We Publicize the League* to increase visibility and *How We Engage and Retain Members* to allow leaders to emerge. Exercises taught ways to identify allied groups for strong, collaborative partnerships and outreach. The new techniques were applied to real event goals and strategies. The workshop was not only informative, but it provided an opportunity for participants to meet other Leaguers and to hear of League activities statewide.

Thank you LWV Maryland for a great day.

By Kathy Larrabee



## LWVUS Constitutional Amendment Study

Delegates at the 2014 LWVUS Convention adopted a three-part national study: (1) Amending the U.S. Constitution, (2) Money in Politics, and (3) Redistricting. The study committees chose to focus on the procedural issues within each of these topics.

Article V of the U.S. Constitution authorizes two procedures for proposing amendments and two methods for ratifying a proposed amendment. Amendments may be proposed by a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress, or by a special Constitutional convention. Ratification can be done by approval by three-fourths of the state legislatures or approval by conventions in three-fourths of the states. Since the adoption of the Constitution, all amendments have been proposed by Congress, none have been proposed by a national Constitutional convention. Since its adoption, the Constitution has been amended 27 times, with ten of the amendments (the Bill of Rights) passed by the Founding Fathers. Amendment 18 was repealed by Amendment 21. So, although there have been approximately 11,623 proposed amendments from 1789 to 1914, outside of the Bill of Rights, only 15 have been permanently adopted into the Constitution.

Two fairly recent examples of amendments passed by Congress or proposed by the states, which failed to gain the required level of approval, were the Equal Rights Amendment and the Balanced Budget Amendment. During the ratification process for each of them (Congress has set a seven year time limit for ratification), several state legislatures passed and then rescinded their support.

As to the Constitutional Convention option, one reason none of the calls for a convention has succeeded is that the Constitution specifies no rules to govern the convention once it's called. While Article V sets out a process for calling the convention it provides no guidelines for the subsequent process.

Some believe that there are “strong structural reasons for amending the Constitution only reluctantly and as a last resort.” In her article, “Constitutional Amendmentitis,” Kathleen Sullivan cites these underlying reasons:\*

1. Stability – This is a key virtue of having a Constitution, and amending it too often undercuts that purpose.
2. Rule of Law – The Constitution is our highest law, the rest is politics. Too frequent amendments erode the boundary between the two, making support for the Constitution a matter of political preference.
3. Coherence – The Constitution was written as a unified document; amendments can create conflicts within the document as a whole.
4. Generality – The Constitution was purposely drafted in general terms. An amendment has the potential to effect a major change.
5. Role of the Court – We have granted the Supreme Court broad interpretive powers. Amendments, especially those that overturn Court decisions, undermine respect for the legitimacy of the Court.

In summary, this does not mean the Constitution should never be amended, but for the above reasons, there should be a strong presumption against doing so except when changes consistent with the Constitution’s broad purposes are unlikely to be enacted by ordinary legislative means.

In his article, “Constitutional Amendments and the Constitutional Common Law, Professor Adrian

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\*Source: Synopsis of “Constitutional Amendmentitis” by Kathleen Sullivan that first appeared in The American Prospect, prepared by the LWVUS Study Committee on Constitutional Amendments, July 2015.



**LWVUS Constitutional Amendment Study (cont'd)**

Vermeule offers some counter arguments, synopsized as follows:”\*

1. *Amendments politicize the Constitution:* so do judicial interpretations of the Constitution.
2. *Amendments clutter up the Constitution:* the real alternative to lengthy text in the Constitution is to have a complex and tangled underbrush of judicial decisions.
3. *Amendments represent a “mutiny” against the Supreme Court:* on the contrary, more amendments would leave less room for judicial flip-flops, over-rulings and creative and novel interpretations.
4. *Amendments have bad unintended consequences:* judicial updating, judicial inaction or amendment restraint may also have unforeseen consequences.
5. *Amendments should not encode “mere social policies” but should expand individual rights or improve government structure:* why shouldn’t other types of amendments be considered as circumstances change?

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\*Source: Synopsis of “Constitutional Amendments and the Constitutional Common Law” by Professor Adrian Vermeule, Professor of Law at the University of Chicago, prepared by the LWVUS Study Committee on Constitutional Amendments, July 2015.

In conclusion, both the amendment process and judge-made constitutional law may be appropriate alternatives in different circumstances.

The present-day movement to amend the Constitution is largely focused on overturning the Supreme Court’s decision in *Citizens United v. FEC*, which essentially allows unlimited expenditures in elections as long as they are not coordinated with a candidate or campaign. Accordingly, this is the connection between two parts of the LWVUS’ three-part study. As the LWVUS has not previously studied or reached consensus on amending the Constitution, the League cannot take a position on the issue.

I attended LWVMD’s Fall workshop in which the study on “Amending the Constitution” was discussed. My own view is that the likelihood of the campaign for an amendment to come to fruition is miniscule, and the consensus questions, might very well not lead to a coherent position.

Study resource materials and consensus questions are available for review on the LWVUS website: <http://forum.lwv.org/category/member-resources/our-work/constitutional-amendment-study>

Myrna Siegel, Program Chair

**COMMUNITY**

**CFAAC Presents Community Needs Assessment**

On Wednesday, January 13, the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County will present its most recent community needs assessment, *Poverty Amidst Plenty V: Striving to Achieve Progress For All*. Dr. Pamela Brown, Executive Director of the Anne Arundel County Partnership for Children, Youth and Families, will summarize the report’s findings. The program will be held at Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts from 8:30 to 10:30 am. Please register at <http://cfaac.givezooks.com/events/public-launch-2015-community-needs-assessment>; attendance is free. Contact Amy Francis at amy@cfaac.org or 410-280-1102 with questions.



Wednesday, January 13th, 2016

Congregation Kneseth Israel  
1125 Spa Road  
Annapolis, MD 21403

Doors open 7:00 PM  
Program 7:30 PM

Opening Remarks by  
Anne Arundel County Executive Steve Schuh

Featured Speakers include

Detectives Dan Dickey and Bernie Adkins  
Anne Arundel County Police Department

Thomas Stack, Human Trafficking Policy Analyst  
Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

Jody Rabhan, Director of Washington Operations  
National Council of Jewish Women, Inc.

Sponsored by  
Annapolis Section, National Council of Jewish Women  
Congregation Kneseth Israel Sisterhood

Co-sponsored by  
Anne Arundel County League of Women Voters, Annapolis Chapter of Hadassah  
Jewish Women International Tradition Chapter, Women's League of Congregation Kol Shalom  
and Temple Beth Shalom Sisterhood

Free of charge and Open to the public



The League of Women Voters of Anne Arundel County cordially invites  
**County Delegation and League Members** to

# CONVERSATION & COFFEE

## 2016 Legislative Priorities

**RSVP:**  
Thursday, January 7  
410.849.5429 or  
jack.coon@verizon.net  
.....  
*\* If you cannot attend,  
we would welcome the  
participation of your  
senior legislative aide.*

**Thursday, January 14, 2016  
8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**

Low House Office Building  
Montgomery County Delegation Room #170  
.....

To ensure an informative meeting, we would like to hear Delegation members speak briefly on issues of interest to them during the 2016 General Assembly session. Also, please consider League 2016 priorities as follows:

**MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK**  
Redistricting reform

**PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT**  
Mitigating climate change

**MEETING THE BASIC HUMAN NEEDS  
OF OUR CITIZENS**  
Adequate public transportation; full funding of the Bridge to Excellence Act; maintaining a safety net for vulnerable populations; corrections and sentencing reform





## LWVMD WINTER WORKSHOP



Saturday, January 23, 2016

Wilde Lake Interfaith Center, Columbia, MD  
10431 Twin Rivers Road, Columbia, MD 21044 -2331

9:30 am - 1:30 pm

Workshop fee of \$25 includes morning coffee/breakfast breads, lunch, materials

9:30 Registration

10:00 Welcome

10:15 Workshops: Using the new website

How to do a presentation on

Redistricting Reform in your community

*These workshops will take place concurrently.*

*Be sure that at least two members from your local League attend.*

12:15 Lunch

Speaker: Adar Ayira, Project Manager, Associated Black Charities

1:30 Adjournment

\*Snow Date: January 30, 2016 Check [LWVMD.org](http://www.lwvmd.org) if weather is inclement.

### WINTER WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

(Deadline for Registration - January 20, 2016)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

LEAGUE \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: Workshop fee (\$25 per person) \_\_\_\_\_

Donation to the LWVMD Education Fund \_\_\_\_\_

(Or donate on line: Go to [http://www.lwvmd.org/join\\_donate](http://www.lwvmd.org/join_donate))

Mail to: LWVMD, 111 Cathedral Street, Suite 201, Annapolis, MD 21401

Or register on line - Go to [http://www.lwvmd.org/winter\\_workshop\\_2016](http://www.lwvmd.org/winter_workshop_2016)

If you or someone you know would like assistance from the Lois Stoner Scholarship Fund for the workshop fee, please contact the LWVMD office at 410 269 0232 or by email: [lwvmd@verizon.net](mailto:lwvmd@verizon.net)



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (NEW AND RENEWAL)

Includes membership in the LWV of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, and the U.S.

Please check one:

- Membership options: New LWVAAC member, Renewing LWVAAC member, Previous LWV member (state or MD county), Life member, year joined

CONTACT INFORMATION This information will be shared only with other LWVAAC members.

Form fields for contact information: Name (individual or student member), Name (household member, if applicable), Mailing Address, City/State/Zip Code, Telephone(s) Home, Cell, Email, Preferred contact (telephone, email, postal), Referred by

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS AND ANNUAL DUES Members must be U.S. citizens 18 years of age or older.

Membership levels and dues: Individual - \$65, Household - \$30, Student - \$25, School affiliation, Anticipated completion date

CONTRIBUTION OPPORTUNITIES Membership dues are not tax deductible.

Contribution opportunities: A tax-deductible contribution to the LWVAAC Education Fund, A non-tax deductible contribution directly to the LWVAAC, TOTAL

Make checks payable to: LWV of Anne Arundel County
Mail application and check to: LWVAAC Treasurer, 1130 Shore Drive, Edgewater, MD 21037
For questions, call: 410-897-0332 (membership chair)

League of Women Voters of Anne Arundel County, a non-partisan, political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Revised October 2013